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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/531,527	04/15/2005	Jianming Xu	139360USPCT	9098

7590 01/09/2008
Alcatel
Intellectual Property Department
3400 W Plano Parkway
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Plano, TX 75075

EXAMINER

CONTEE, JOY KIMBERLY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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01/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/531,527	Applicant(s) XU ET AL.	
	Examiner Joy K. Contee	Art Unit 2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 November 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 19-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 19-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114.

Applicant's submission filed on 11/23/07 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6 and 19-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britt et al. (Britt), U.S. Patent No. 6,226,517, in view of Joensuu et al. (Joensuu), US Patent No. 5,878,347.

Regarding claims 1 and 19, Britt discloses a method for minimizing call setup delay for a call in a communication network, the method comprising: triggering a first query to the central node for information for routing the call when a request for setting up the call is received by a switching unit; (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Britt fails to explicitly disclose wherein the communication network includes a central node connected to a number portability database, triggering a second query from the central node to a home location register for the routing information in order to set up the call; and triggering a third query from the central node to the number portability database for the routing information if the second query fails to provide the routing information.

In a similar field of endeavor, Joensuu discloses wherein the communication network includes a central node (reads on Gateway MSC) connected to a number portability database, triggering a second query from the central node to a home location register for the routing information in order to set up the call; and triggering a third query from the central node to the number portability database for the routing information if the second query fails to provide the routing information (col. 6, line 54 to col. 7, lines 29 and Figs. 3 & 8).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Britt to include a gateway MSC which takes incoming calls and routes accordingly, acting as a central node between the HLR and NPDB.

Regarding claim 2, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising selecting the home location register from a first table accessible to the central node, wherein the home location register is selected based on a mobile station ISDN and a state of a flag (col. 3, lines 20-43).

Regarding claim 3, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 further comprising searching a second table for a location routing number before triggering the

second query, wherein the second query is only triggered if the location routing number is not found in the second table (col. 3, lines 20-43).

Regarding claim 4, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the home location register has a number portability mapping database for mapping ported numbers, wherein each mobile phone known to the home location register is identifiable by its mobile station ISDN number, and wherein triggering the second query includes searching number portability mapping database for a mobile station ISDN number associated with the call (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 5, Britt discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the call is made from one wireless communication network to another (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 6, Britt discloses the method of claim 5 wherein the two wireless communication networks use different technologies (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Regarding claim 20, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a number portability database (NPDB) connected to the central node, and instructions for querying the NPDB if no match is found after searching of the first and second tables.

Regarding claim 21, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 further comprising a network switch in communication with the central node, wherein the network switch is adapted for querying the central node for routing information when the switch receives a request to set up the call.

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Regarding claim 22, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein at least some of the plurality of HLRs are based on different technologies.

Regarding claim 23, Britt discloses the telecommunications system of claim 19 wherein the instructions further include instructions for receiving and sending messages based on different technologies (col. 1, line 49- col. 2, line 19 and line 41 – col. 3, line 42).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joy K. Contee whose telephone number is 571.272.7906. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571.272.7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JC



JOY K. CONTEE
PATENT EXAMINER